

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CANBER 02603 090748 Z

14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01

RSR-01 /086 W

----- 011661

R 090703 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0896

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

SUMMISSION OECD PARIS 0479

UNCLAS CANBERRA 2603

EO 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ELAB SGEN AS

SUBJECT: NATIONAL WAGE AWARD

1. COMMONWEALTH CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION COMMISSION
MAY 8 DECISION (1) AWARDS BROAD WAGE RISE OF \$2.50
PLUS 2 PERCENT OF CURRENT WAGES, EFFECTIVE MAY 29; (2) IN-
CREASES WEEKLY MINIMUM WAGE FROM \$51.00 TO \$60.00.
ALL DATE AUSTRALIAN DOLLARS.

2. WHILE COMMISSION DECISION ITSELF APPLIES DIRECTLY
ONLY TO METAL TRADES AND CERTAIN LIMITED WHITE- COLLAR
GROUPS, AS PRACTICAL MATTER AUSTRALIAN WAGE
PROCEDURE THESE CHANGES WILL BE EFFECTIVE AT SAME
TIME FOR 40 PERCENT OF LABOR FORCE UNDER FEDERAL AWARDS
AND QUICKLY THEREAFTER TO OVER TOTAL OF 75 PERCENT OF
AUSTRALIAN WAGE EARNERS.

3. IN ITS DECISION COMMISSION RELIED PROMINENTLY ON MARCH GOA
SUBMISSION SUPPORTING BOTH INCREASES AND CERTIFYING
GOA VIEW THERE WAS SCOPE FOR APPRECIABLE INCREASE
IN WAGES WITHOUT UNDESIRABLE INFLATIONARY CONSEQUENCE.

4. WHILE ESTIMATES PUBLICIZED THAT DECISION WOULD
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CANBER 02603 090748 Z

ADD \$850 MILLION ANNUAL RATE TO AUSTRALIAN WAGE
TOTAL, THESE ESTIMATES LESS SIGNIFICANT THAN APPEAR.

GENERAL VIEW IS THAT AGGREGATE 1973 WAGE INCREASES
THROUGH CONTINUING ARBITRATION PROCESS WILL SIGNIFI-
CANTLY EXCEED COMMISSION FORMULA, WHICH IS NOT BINDING
ON UPSIDE. WHILE THE LARGE INCREASE IN MINIMUM
WAGES IS SIGNIFICANT IN TERMS SOCIAL POLICY, ITS
ECONOMIC IMPACT MODEST BECAUSE OF RELATIVELY
SMALL NUMBER OF WAGE EARNERS NOW RECEIVING WEEKLY
WAGES UNDER \$60.00.

5. ON BALANCE, COMMISSION DECISION POINTS TOWARD
ADDITIONAL INFLATIONARY IMPACT AUSTRALIAN WAGE
DEVELOPMENTS, BUT WILL ITSELF BE NEIGHTER PRIME FORCE
NOR FULL MEASURE OF SUCH IMPACT IN 1973.
RICE

UNCLASSIFIED
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CANBER02603
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730539/aaaaijsf.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: smithrj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05-Oct-2001 by kuehnbc0>; APPROVED <06-Feb-2002 by smithrj>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980105
Subject: NATIONAL WAGE AWARD
TAGS: ELAB, AS, SGEN
To: EA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005